

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-05

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 /006 R

DRAFTED BY AF/W JWVINCENT

APPROVED BY: AF/W ORAGGREY

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R 311837Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

S E C R E T STATE 174087

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION STATE/AID

USUN CINCEUR CINCSO AIR UNIVERSITY ARMY WAR COLLEGE

NAVY WAR COLLEGE COMAC DIA TREASURY WHITE HOUSE COMUSARMY

FT MEADE ADWC TYNDALL COMDT COAST GUARD DIRNAVINVSERV

CGFMFLANT USIA HQ TAC HQS DSA SAC OFFUTT AFB BERGSTROM AFB

300423Z AUG 73 RPT TO YOU QUOTE

S E C R E T NO FOREIGN DISSEM. CITE CIA 4496

15.

MIDDLE EAST AFRICA BRIEF 031.

ITEMS MARKED & HAVE BEEN COORDINATED WITH DEPARTMENTS OF
STATE AND DEFENSE.

&1. SOUTH ASIA: THE INDO-PAKISTANI AGREEMENT SIGNED
YESTERDAY IN NEW DELHI SETTLES KEY HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS RESULTING
FROM THE 1971 WAR AND SHOULD CLEAR THE WAY FOR A GENERAL
NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS IN SOUTH ASIA.

THE TWO ROUNDS OF BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS, WHICH OPENED IN
PAKISTAN LAST MONTH AND RESUMED IN NEW DELHI ON 18 AUGUST,
FINALLY YIELDED AN AGREEMENT--WITH BANGLADESH'S CONCURRENCE--FOR
RELEASE OF ALL BUT 195 OF THE 90,000 PAKISTANI PRISONERS OF WAR
HELD IN INDIA SINCE DECEMBER 1971. IT ALSO AUTHORIZES AN EXCHANGE
OF 150,000-200,000 BENGALIERS DETAINED IN PAKISTAN (INCLUDING 203
OFFICIALS PAKISTAN ACCUSED OF TREASON AND ESPIONAGE) AND AN UN-
SPECIFIED NUMBER OF NON-BENGALI MUSLIM BIHARIS NOW IN BANGLADESH.

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THE 195 PAKISTANI PRISONERS THAT BANGLADESH WANTED TO TRY
FOR WAR CRIMES WILL REMAIN IN INDIA, PENDING NEGOTIATIONS ON THEIR
STATUS BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND BANGLADESH. IT IS QUESTIONABLE THAT
ANY OF THEM WILL EVER FACE TRIAL IN BANGLADESH, BUT THEIR FUTURE
WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO BE RESOLVED BEFORE PAKISTAN WILL RECOGNIZE

BANGLADESH. THE PAKISTANIS PROBABLY WILL TRY TO PERSUADE BANGLADESH TO DROP ALL PLANS TO HOLD WAR CRIMES TRIALS BY OFFERING TO ACCEPT IN RETURN ADDITIONAL NUMBERS OF BIHARIS WHO WANT TO GO TO PAKISTAN. WHEN THESE ISSUES ARE FINALLY OUT OF THE WAY AND RECOGNITION FOLLOWS, NEGOTIATIONS ON THE DIVISION OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES BETWEEN PAKISTAN AND BANGLADESH COULD BEGIN.

THE AGREEMENT WILL FACILITATE IMPROVEMENT OF INDO-PAKISTANI RELATIONS, INCLUDING EVENTUAL RESTORATION OF DIPLOMATIC AND ECONOMIC TIES. RECONCILIATION ON THE SUBCONTINENT ALSO ENSURES IMPROVED RELATIONS FOR INDIA AND BANGLADESH WITH CHINA.// CHINESE OFFICIALS HAVE EXPRESSED PEKING'S WILLINGNESS TO SUPPORT UN MEMBERSHIP FOR BANGLADESH AND TO NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH INDIA, ONCE THE PROBLEM OF THE PAKISTANI WAR PRISONERS IS RESOLVED.// (CONFIDENTIAL)

2. AFGHANISTAN: PRESIDENT DAUD OUTLINED A NUMBER OF DIFFICULT

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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL GOALS IN HIS INDEPENDENCE DAY BROADCAST ON 23 AUGUST. DAUD BLAMED THE RECENTLY ABOLISHED MONARCHY FOR THE PRESENT PROBLEMS FACING THE NATION, INCLUDING ECONOMIC STAGNATION, POVERTY, CORRUPTION, DISCRIMINATION AGAINST THE POOR, AND PROFITEERING BY FOREIGN FIRMS. HE SPOKE IN GLOWING TERMS OF HIS REGIME'S DETERMINATION TO REVITALIZE THE ECONOMY AND BRING ABOUT SOCIAL JUSTICE. DAUD CALLED FOR STATE OWNERSHIP AND EXPANSION OF HEAVY INDUSTRY AND NOTED THAT THE STATE WOULD "ENCOURAGE, PROTECT, GUIDE, AND CONTROL" LIGHT AND MEDIUM INDUSTRY. LAND REFORM AND VARIOUS SOCIAL CHANGES, INCLUDING IMPROVED WORKING CONDITIONS, A MINIMUM WAGE, FREE PRIMARY EDUCATION, EMANCIPATION OF WOMEN, AND EVEN CREATION OF A TELEVISION NETWORK WERE ALSO PROMISED.

//THE EMBASSY IN KABUL COMMENTS THAT EVEN SLIGHT PROGRESS IN THESE FIELDS WILL BE DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE UNLESS THE REGIME IS ABLE TO STRENGTHEN AND CONSOLIDATE ITS POWER TO INculcate

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THE NEED FOR REFORM THROUGHOUT THE GOVERNMENTAL STRUCTURE.//

IN HIS PREVIOUS ROLE AS PRIME MINISTER AND VIRTUAL DICTATOR OF AFGHANISTAN BETWEEN 1953 AND 1963, DAUD PROVED TO BE PERSONALLY INCORRUPTIBLE AND DEVOTED TO MODERNIZING THE COUNTRY. AFGHANISTAN

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IS A PRIMITIVE AND POOR NATION, HOWEVER, WITH FEW RESOURCES TO SUPPORT A RAPID CHANGEOVER TO A MODERN, DEVELOPED SOCIETY. AT A MINIMUM, LARGE QUANTITIES OF NEW OUTSIDE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE WILL BE NEEDED TO SUPPORT THE EFFORT.//ADDITIONALLY, RECENT REPORTS FROM KABUL HAVE EMPHASIZED THE INEXPERIENCE OF THE NEW LEADERS AND THE CONFLICTS WHICH HAVE DEVELOPED WITHIN THE RULING CENTRAL COMMITTEE--FACTORS WHICH THUS FAR HAVE TENDED TO IMMOBILIZE THE GOVERNMENT.//(CONFIDENTIAL)

3.//MALI: A GROUP OF 25 MALIAN ARMY PERSONNEL LEFT MALI LAST WEEK FOR THREE YEARS' TRAINING IN CHINA. THE TRAINEES PROBABLY WILL JOIN TWO MALIAN GROUPS OF UNKNOWN SIZE THAT DEPARTED

FOR PEKING IN JUNE. THEY WERE THE FIRST MALIANS TO GO TO CHINA FOR MILITARY TRAINING; SOME 160 MALIANS HAVE RECEIVED SUCH TRAINING IN THE SOVIET UNION AND EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES SINCE 1960.

AFTER AN INITIAL PERIOD OF COOLNESS FOLLOWING THE OVERTHROW BY PRESIDENT TRAORE IN 1968 OF THE RADICAL REGIME OF MODIBO KEITA, RELATIONS WITH PEKING HAVE BEEN WARMING STEADILY./THE US EMBASSY IN BAMAKO REPORTED LAST NOVEMBER THAT THE CHINESE HAD AGREED TO A PROGRAM OF MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND TRAINING AND THAT CHINA IS NOW MALI'S SECOND LARGEST DONOR OF ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE--OUT-

PAGE 06 RUEAIIA 3646 S E C R E T NO FOREIGN DISSEM DISTANCED ONLY BY THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES' DEVELOPMENT FUND.// TRAORE VISITED PEKING LAST JUNE AND SIGNED AN ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT.

PEKING APPEARS TO BE FOOT-DRAGGING, HOWEVER, ON MALI'S MOST EXTENSIVE AND IMPORTANT PROJECT--CONSTRUCTION OF THE \$125 MILLION MANANTALI DAM. CHINA HAS BEEN STUDYING THE PROJECT FOR SEVERAL YEARS AND APPEARS TO BE THE ONLY POTENTIAL DONOR, BUT HAS MADE NO COMMITMENT AS YET. THE MILITARY AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING PROGRAMS MAY BE INTENDED TO COMPENSATE MALI WHILE PEKING

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CONTINUES TO STALL ON THE LARGER PROJECT. (SECRET)//

4. CHAD: IN A FURTHER MOVE TO DEMONSTRATE HIS POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE VIS-A-VIS THE FRENCH, PRESIDENT TOMBALBAYE DISSOLVED THE COUNTRY'S SINGLE POLITICAL PARTY, THE CHADIAN PROGRESSIVE PARTY (PPT), ON 27 AUGUST. HE CHARGED THAT ITS CHARTER WAS OBSOLETE AND TIED TOO CLOSELY TO FRENCH INTERESTS.

THE PRESIDENT WANTS THE NEWLY LAUNCHED PARTY, NATIONAL MOVEMENT FOR CULTURE AND SOCIAL REVOLUTION (MNRCs), TO APPEAL TO ALL SEGMENTS OF THE POPULATION AND PRESERVE AFRICAN VALUES AND INTERESTS. TOMBALBAYE RESERVED IMPORTANT POSITIONS IN THE MNRCs FOR TRADITIONAL--AND PRESUMABLY FRENCH-ORIENTED--LEADERS AND SET UP

PAGE 07 RUEAIIA 3646 S E C R E T NO FOREIGN DISSEM CHADIAN CIVIL LEGION TO WORK WITH YOUTH. TOMBALBAYE ALSO SOUGHT TO RALLY POPULAR ENTHUSIASM FOR CHAD'S ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL PROGRESS BY CALLING FOR CHADIANS TO GET BEHIND THE GOVERNMENT'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS.

//THE CREATION OF A NEW PARTY, THE RECENT WITHDRAWAL OF CHAD FROM THE FRENCH-BACKED AFRO-MALAGASY AND MAURITIAN COMMON ORGANIZATION, AND LAST MONTH'S ANTI-FRENCH PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN ARE ALL REFLECTIONS OF TOMBALBAYE'S CONTINUING FRUSTRATION OVER THE COUNTRY'S OVERWHELMING DEPENDENCE ON FRANCE. SINCE TOMBALBAYE IS UNABLE TO SUCCEED IN ECONOMIC PURSUITS WITHOUT FRENCH ASSISTANCE, HE IS SEEKING OTHER WAYS TO REDUCE FRENCH POLITICAL AND CULTURAL INFLUENCE, AND APPARENTLY BELIEVES THE NEW PARTY WILL FIT HIS PURPOSE. (CONFIDENTIAL)// E2 IMPDET. UNQUOTE ROGERS

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 10 MAY 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 31 AUG 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE174087
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JVINCENT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730869/abqceikt.tel
Line Count: 161
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN AF
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12-Dec-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <04 MAR 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: PFOR
To: BAMAKO
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005